Community Discussion Groups 2011

<u>Goals</u>: To generate discussion on particular questions about future library services as well as elicit further ideas and comments from a representative group from the community.

Questions:

General:

- **?** What 3 sources do you use most to find out about community events?
 - **?** What source(s) would be most useful for you to find out about library events?
- ? If you are fairly new to town, is the library easy to find?
- ? Do you find the library easy to navigate? What changes might you make?

Service Priorities:

- **?** What does BASIC LITERACY mean to you (3 sample services)
- ? Looking at the top 5 priorities (from the surveys) and types of services, would you re-order these in a different way? Would you like to see any other priorities or services considered?
- ? Is there a particular need for a service in Stratham that you don't see being currently provided?
- ? Do you think that the library would be the appropriate organization to provide that service?

Usage:

? Which of the following would get you to use the library more frequently?

Longer loan periods (3 or 4 weeks for books, 2 weeks for movies, etc.)

More periodicals available

More information about using online resources/tech support

More programs & events

Extended hours (when?)

More audiobooks

Library book group

Evening family programs (preschool – elementary)

Other?

Popular Services, Collections, Programs [present survey results]

? What are your top 3 favorite things that the library offers or does?

Budgeting: [present current method of budgeting, source of funding, etc.]

- **?** Given the earlier services & programs discussion -- how much are these various things "worth" in taxes? Are there services that should only be added with fundraising dollars?
- **?** Are there additional or different museum passes that you would like to have access to at the library? How should these be funded?
- ? Staffing with talented, trained people is expensive how high on the priority list should recruiting and retaining excellent staff be? How would you speak to the budget committee/selectmen about this issue?

Future: [present recent trending, discussions about the future of libraries]

? How do you envision the library in 10 years

Collections

Services Building/interior

? What are your fears? ? Your hopes?

Schedule: 9/8 Th, 6:30 p.m.; 9/21 W, 10:30 a.m.; 9/26 M, 4 p.m., 10/1 Sa, 10:30 a.m.